



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE FORECAST OFFICE
6633 Aviation Way
Missoula, MT 59808-9381
Phone: 406-329-4715

August 29, 2007

Ravalli County Commissioners
Jim Rokosch, Chairperson
Carlotta Grandstaff, Vice
Kathleen Driscoll
Alan Thompson
Greg Chilcott
1113 South 4th Street
Hamilton, MT 59840

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Ravalli County Commissioners

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Dear County Commissioners:

I would like to invite you to a special celebration on October 9, 2007, when the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Weather Service (NWS) in Missoula will designate Ravalli County, Hamilton, Pinesdale, Stevensville, and Darby as "StormReady" communities.

Join the NWS, as well as state and local representatives, as we recognize the accomplishments of this community. The program begins at 11:00 am in the Commissioners Meeting Room at 214 South 4th St., 3rd floor. During this program, the NWS will outline the threats that Western States face from severe weather for State representatives, emergency management officials, representatives from the local government and media. We will also explain the purpose and benefits of the StormReady program.

The recognition ceremony will begin around 11:30 am. Please join me as we present the community leaders with certificates and signs designating them as StormReady.

I hope that you will be able to join us at the briefing session and the recognition ceremony.

Please RSVP by September 24 to Peter Felsch, Warning Coordination Meteorologist, National Weather Service Forecast Office Missoula by completing the attached form and fax it to (406) 329-4842 or send the requested information via email to peter.felsch@noaa.gov

Sincerely,

Peter Felsch
Warning Coordination Meteorologist

Attachment: RSVP Form

What is StormReady?

Americans live in the most severe weather-prone country on Earth.

Each year, a startling 10,000 thunderstorms, 2,500 floods, 1,000 tornadoes, and an average of ten hurricanes impact the United States. Potentially deadly severe weather impacts every American. Communities can now rely on the National Weather Service's StormReady program to help them guard against the ravages of Mother Nature.



Ninety percent of all presidentially declared disasters are weather-related. Through the StormReady program, NOAA's National Weather Service gives communities the skills and education needed to survive severe weather – before and during the event. StormReady helps community leaders and emergency managers strengthen their local hazardous weather operations.

StormReady communities are better prepared to save lives from the onslaught of severe weather through better planning, education, and awareness. Communities have fewer fatalities and property damage if they plan before dangerous weather arrives. No community is storm proof, but StormReady can help communities save lives.

TO: National Weather Service Missoula

FAX: 406-329-4842

☐ Yes, I/We will attend the StormReady ceremony

☐ No, sorry I cannot attend this ceremony. Send my congratulations to the community leaders for this great achievement!

Name(s): _____

Title: _____

Organization: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____